

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 /078 W
-----103841 200344Z /12

R 191646Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2717
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6459

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, MZ, PO
SUBJ: AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS: GOP MISSION TO ANGOLA

REF: LISBON 6349

SUMMARY: A GOP WORKING-LEVEL DELEGATION HEADED BY FONMIN
OFFICIAL MATOS PARREIRA WILL LEAVE AUG 23 FOR ANGOLA. TIMING OF
VISIT, ALMOST SIMULTANEOUS WITH THAT OF PS LEADER MANUEL
ALEGRE, APPEARS TO REFLECT FOREIGN MINISTRY'S INTEREST IN
RETAINING A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN PORTUGUESE-ANGOLAN RELATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

1. DR. MATOS PARREIRA, DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICE FOR COOPERATION, WILL HEAD A GOP DELEGATION DEPARTING
FOR LUANDA AUG 23. THE DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE
COMMANDER COLACO CANCELA, CHIEF OF CABINET OF THE STATE
SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE INTEGRATION, AND "TECHNICIANS"
DR. AGOSTINHO FALCAO AND DR. ROSARIO E SOUSA, AND ENG.
RICARDO CABRITA. THE STATED PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO
STUDY PROBLEMS OF PORTUGUESE PUBLIC SERVANTS CURRENTLY
WORKING IN ANGOLA.

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2. REPORTS FROM LUANDA DATELINED AUG 18 ANNOUNCED THAT
THE MPLA COUNCIL OF THE REVOLUTION HAS ALTERED THE
ANGOLAN CONSTITUTION TO GIVE PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO
THE POWER TO NAME AND DISMISS MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET.

3. COMMENT: THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SECOND PORTUGUESE
MISSION TO ANGOLA, COMING ON THE HEELS OF THE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF A VISIT BY PS LEADER MANUEL ALEGRE
BEGINNING AUG 20, SMACKS OF A DEAL BETWEEN THE FOREIGN
MINISTER AND HIS PS COLLEAGUES. THE FOREIGN MINISTER,
SENSITIVE TO HIS PEROGATIVES, RESISTED THE ALEGRE VISIT,
BUT SOCIALIST PARTY INTEREST IN STRENGTHENING ITS
PARTY-TO-PARTY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MPLA OVERRODE
THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S OBJECTIONS.. BOTH VISITS, HOWEVER,
UNDERScore THE DESIRE OF THE SOARES GOVERNMENT TO NORMALIZE
RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA.
CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LISBON06459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770301-0207
Format: TEL
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770844/aaaables.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 251c0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LISBON 6349
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1550827
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS: GOP MISSION TO ANGOLA
TAGS: PINT, OVIP, MZ, PO, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/251c0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009